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N EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL A MEETING of the above CLun will be held in the Club Premises on MONDAY, the

By Order of the Committee. S. S. LONG. Hon. Secretary. Hongkoug, 29th | nne, 1897. THE WANCHAI WAREHOUSE AND

STORAGE CO., LIMITED. NINTERIM DIVIDEND at the Rate of FOUR per Cent. (One Dollar and Fifty Cents per Share) for the Six Months [aS1] ending 30th June, 1897, will be PAID, onapplication, to the registered Shareholders in the above Company, on WEDNESDAY, the The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company

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Mr. W. Rudeloff

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Extra Night cars at 11:30 and 11:45 p.m. 8.45 a.m. to 10.15 a.m. Every half hour. 10.30 a.m. and 10.40 a.m. P. H. 10-15 p.m. Every quarter of an hour.
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A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED. THE HONOKONG DISPENSARY

Hongkong, 15th April, 1897. NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS Orbit communications relating to thenews columns should be addressed to THE EDITOR. Correspondents must forward their name and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not

for publication but a evidence of good faith.
All letters for publication should be written on one No unongineusly signed communications that have treaty appeared in other papers will be inserted. writers for extra copies of DAILT PRESS should be sent be one 11 a.m. on day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supplied for Cash Telegraphic Address PRES -A.B.C. Code. P.U Boz. 20. Telephone No. 12.

MARRIAGE On the 19th Jone, at Christ Church, Yokohama, by Rev E. Champhers Irwine, CHARLES G. 88Y CONINGHAM, late Royal Artillery Militim, second Bun of Major-General Herbert Coningham, Her Amesty's Indian Army, to LILY RESECCA, eldest daughter of a illiam Bourne, of Yokohama.

At Shanghai, on the 23th June, CAPITOLING M. DB S .NNA, uged 51 years.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JULY 3rd, 1897. THE Host. F. H. MAY, in his report onthe Fire Brigade for last year, ascribes the marked diminution in the number of fires after April to the increased rates of premia for insurance which then came into force and to the conviction for arson of two Chinese partners and the benvy sentence of each. We notice that one of our contempornries has called in question the likelihood upon the crime of incendiarism, an the ground that an unprincialed scoundrel who nestit to set fire to his shop would not be deterred by the amount he had to pay for incuring it. It is a matter of common experience, however, that in countries where the standard of morality is low chenn insurance does as a matter of fact lend to an increase in the crime of conduction. Nor is it strange that this should be so. The man who plans out a scheme for enriching himself at the expense of the Insurance Companies is in the majority of cases a man of straw who has no great amount of ready cash available and unless he can get cheap insurance his would-be incending is not always able to carry out his scheme, for want of a favourable opportunity, in which case he looks upon the dimount he has paid by way of insurance premium as so much money lost: Where meneurates are high and the preliminary examination stringent—and the two usually go together-men of this class are likely to be deterred from insuring, but where there is a cut-threat competition amongst the Instructed Offices and polices are issued at n-low rate of premium and with only a restauctory examination of the stock and premises, unprincipled men are the more ready to take we hance in the game, trusting that they may have an opportunity of applying the torch without detection. The risky, however, are great, and where detection takes place and legal proof is forth whenever the slarm is given.

coming the consequences to the weened are serious, as in the case mentioned in M May's report. The conviction in the care referred to could not fail to have a salutary effect on others contemplating the perpetration of a similar crime, and probably the decrease in the number of fires last year was due more to that cause than to the increase in rates of premium, but the conjunction of the two no doubt made each more effective than either would have been standing alone. Having to pay more money to begin with, and twelve years pound servitude as the result of the venture, would strike the practical mind of the Chinese inconding as a game not worth the candle.

Another point calling for notice in Mr. May's report is his suggestion for an improvement in the organisation of the Fire Brigade and in the traction of the engines. Unfortunately the suggestion is not set out in detail. Mr. May says he has already reported on how the improvements he suggests could be effected and his proposals have received the approval of His Ex cellency the Governor. From this it would seem that a special report has been made on the matter, and we would suggest that that report should be published, The efficiency of the Fire Brigade is a subject of the utmost interest and any well devised scheme for improving our arrangements for the extinction of fires would command public support. With the improved class of house that has replaced the flimsy structures of the earlier days of the colony OUR ARRATED WATER FACTORY is fitted the danger of having a whole district of the city devastated by fire is less than it used to be, and disasters such as those of 1866 against which the colony should be willing to pay a reasonable insurance premium in the form of a liberal provision for the maintenance of an efficient tire brigade. We hope, however, that no scheme of reorganisation will be decided upon until after the fullest public discussion, for the subject is one in which everyone takes an interest and upon

> intelligent opinion. The following reply has been received by the British Consul General at Shanghai from Mr. Geo. Jamieson in reference to the congratulatory message sent him upon the occasion of his recent honour :- "Warmest thanks to all friends. Jamieson.

> which there are many people outside official

circles who are capable of expressing an

Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited. inform us that they have received the following telegram from Australia :- "Eureka 150 tons vielded half-an-ounce to the ton. Additional and improved milling machinery ordered as

The Hongkong Branch of the London College of Music has issued, in pamphlat form, a paper on "How to secure success, in practical examinations" by Mr. Orlando A. Mansfield. The paper is a most interesting one and should be studied by all-instrumentalists and vocalists who desire to attain a high pitch of proficiency.

The Shanghai Freemasons having sent a congratulatory message to the Queen, through the Prince of Wales, on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee, the R. W. District Grand Master, Bro. Lewis Moore, has received the June, 8.5 a.m. Secretary, British, American German Freemesons, Shanghei. Have submit ted your kind telegram to the Queen. (Signed) ALBERT EDWARD."

The arbitration of the Hennertz case was to commence at Shanghai on Wednesday last in Road, before Sir Nicholas J. Hannen, British Consul-General and Chief Justice, sitting with Tsai Taotai. It seems rather strange, says the the China Gazette, and is no doubt canningly designed; by the Uninese that the proceedings should take place in a Chinese building. It is indeed difficult to understand how Bir Nicholas I. Hannen reconciles the idea of sitting in a Chinese building with the dignity of his duel office. We should have thought he would have invited the Chinese Deputy to a seat in the Supreme Court, which would have been a much more satisfactory and surtable place for such an enquiry.

The space reserved for advertisers on the Dismond Year Art Supplements has been in such demand that Mr. Purser has now room for only five more firms. Immediate application by letter is now necessary for these positions. The additions vesterday were Mesars Caldbeck, Macoregor & Co. who show fac similes of their special brands, and the Aquarius Co.: the Hongkone Steam Launch Co. and Messrs, Gordon & Co's engineering works, Mrs. Stockhausen's dressmaking and millinery establishment. Miss Fairall & Co's dressmaking and millinery establishment, and Messrs. L. Martel & Co Views are to be inserted of Queen's Road East and West, the Praya, Queen's College, the Temble of the Goddess of Heaven and the Man Mo Temple, the Tung Wah Hospital, Bonham Strand, and the Flower Show building. An interesting photograph has been presented by Kwong Bang of His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China visiting the Temple of

The Manager of the Chartered Bank of India Australia & China writes us as follows:-- "It is with deep sorrow that we learned from our telegram this morning (2nd July) that Mr. C. E Hume, who left Hongkong for Singepore on 17th ulto va promotion, died to-day. Mr. Hume twelve years bard labour passed upon suffered for a day or two before his departure from an attack of fever contracted whilst sight seeing in Canton, but his medical man thought that the sea voyage to Singapore would put him of the rates of premium having any effect all right, as during his residence of eighteen months here to had enjoyed excellent health and was a keen and successful athlete, having won the one mile foot race at the last Athletic Sports in March. His many friends will doubtless be grieved to hear of his unt mely and, and the Rank loses one who was a distinct acquisition and a young man full of promise. We are not aware of the cause of death." The sorrow expressed by the Hon, T. H. Whitehead at this and event will be shored by all who knew Mr. Hume, and they will also appreciate the kindly hon, gentleman's note.

The imposition of the increased wheelbarrow tax at Shanghai has apparently passed over quietly, no news of any disturbance having been received. Full preparations were made however, as will be seen from the following paragraph, which we take from the China Cazette of the 28th June: - Should any attempt be made by the wheelbarrow coolles to create scheme night full through. Then again, the a disturbance on account of the enhanced tax which is to be lexied pron-them from the lat of July, there is no doubt that retribution will follow if the arrangements that are now being made are carried out even to the point of the beyonet without any backing down. H.M.H. immortalite errived from Chefoo yesterday morning and anchored at Woosung, and she is prepared to land a strong party of blue ackets and marines at any time, while the Daphne's men are under orders to be in rendiness to only they don't advortise it." land at the liest signal. The blue lackets from the U.S.S. Monoracy and the Muchine will also be prepared to land men at once, as well as the Frencusoruser Descarles, and the Japanese grainer I sugueht from Captain Mackentie, the none is better than that of the discomiture of Said everywhere at 2s. 6d. per bottle. Beware Captain Superintendent of Police has ordered a Treesury official who was and over from worthless influtions and subdictions his men who are off duty on that day to confine London to complain of excessive expenditure themselves to barracks and be in readiness, and for fuel in the Lord Chief Justice's Court Major Brodie Clarke and the members of the He was shown into his room, and proceeded Volunteer Corps will be equally game for the gravely and formally to state his errand and to What was the matter?" Stage Manager: for the British merchant would become acoccasion to turn out if necessary. The French onlarge on the amportance of sconomy in the Volunteers (60 men) were paraded yesterday, maiter of fuel. The Lord Chief Justice list. and have been ordered to take up four positions, oned to him very patiently, and then rang the

best French mail, left Salgon restartay morn-ing at 5 a clook for this parts

The P. M. steamer (life of Rio de Janeiro with mails as, laft San Francisco for this por via Honolulu, Yokohama, Koba, Inland Bea Nagasaki, and Shanghai, on the 26th ultime.

The Band of the West Yorkshire Regimen will play the following programme at the Officers' Mess this evening March of the Priests from "Athalle" Mendelsohn. Overture Die Zauberflote "Swedish Melodies" Dunkler God save the Queen.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

SUPPLIED TO THE "DAILY PRESS." LONDOM, 31th June, 1894 THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE. All the foreign Princes and Envoys are tak-

ing their departure from London. THE BRITISH REVENUE. The revenue for the quarter shows an creace of £1,500,000. THE WRECK OF THE "ADEN

The Uaily News states that the wreck of the Aden occurred in a violent storm. bonts were lowered and awamped. The life boat, which got away amidst tremendous seas, has not been seen since. The Captain and other officers were washed off the deck. survivors romained on the wrook for a week in frightful weather and with the scantiest rations, despairing of safety.

DIAMOND JUBILEE SUBSCRIP-

The Hon. Treasurer begs to acknowledge receipt of the following list of Chinese sub scriptions, supplied by Mr. Fung Wah Chuen. Already acknowledged ... \$29.845 On Wo Loong

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Tai Loi Chan Woo Hoi Chan H. Skott & Co.'s Compradors Lau Lai Po Lam King Yin Lam Cho Po Kwai Mow ... Tai Shun Loong Chan Lok Hin Hoong On Chan Yu Wo Cheong, Kobe

Lee Tick, Kobe Tung Tuck Lee Wing Tung Tai On Wo Tai Mutsui Bussan Kaisha. Compradore's department ... Wing Hing Wo Wing Tung Fook Wing Shuen Wo Kwong Wo Loong ...

Ting Shun Wo Shui Chee Tong Kum Lee Yuen... Man Sing Loong Yn Wo Loong Ki Mou Man Fook Sing Chun Sang Lee Ching Ho Ping Kee ... Po Kin Yuen

Wing Fook Cheong Seong Wo ... Ching Kee Chan Tung Lee Chan Cheoner Sun Hon Sun Tai Loong ... Wo Sun Fat Tung Hing Wo Yat Kee-... Fook Kee Tung Hing See Hing Loong Quan On 🚲 Riwong Cheong... ... Tung Shun

Sang Tai Chin Cheong King Wa ... Ying Fat Cheong ... Wo On Wa Loong .. Shiu Hung Cheong ... Wa Shing ... Kwong Lee Cheong... Leang Lai Ching Cheong Lai Pun Ngai bun See To Loung Kwong Wo Yn Kwong Cheong

Knng Yee Tong Kwong Nam Loong Chun Cheong Wing Kut Cheeng Hing Shun Hang Kwong Chun Cheong Han Shun Loong Man Hing Cheong Kung Wo ...

> Heng On Tai Yip Ching Wo... Wing Wo Cheong Yn Mow Kung Shub Yuen Lee Yee Tal Quan ()n Wn Quan Cheong Kwong Fat Yner Man Cho Wing On Cheong

Son Cho ... Wing On Tong Man Cheeng Tong Tin Wo Tong Wing On Chaong Wing Lee Ynen Po On Tai: Chun Yuen Tong

Chung Hing Kwong On Wing Yan Hing., On Sing Wing On Wo Wing Sing Tang Mow Cheong

Man Cheong Tong Lee Hop Kee Woo King Sze Tong Chan Chin Nam Bui On Wo Knong On Cheone Liu Cheong Sau

Numerous are the stories told of the humony and roady wit of the late Lord Fitzgerald, but vis. in the French Consulate, the Municipal half and when the servent appeared, said : Hall, and the Esst and West police stations. The Mary that the man has come about the

Becker: "I see by the posters that Foot.

lights, the trapedian, travels under his wife's

management. Decker: So do most man

\$31,128

MACAO FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT. Macao. 2nd June.

THE PART OF THE PA

Mr. S. E. Beston has taken change of th British Vice Consulate in this colony, and Mr H. Gotte has been transferred, I believe, to Amoy. The Portuguese community is pleased

The steamer Hoton, running tween here and Samshui, was caught by a terrible squall a fow days ago and lost her canvas awning and maste. It is saids that it was a tornado that

On Sunday the election of a Deputy to represent the colony in the Chamber at Lisbon took place. Everything passed off quietly and little notice was taken of the cocasion, because we know that our votes here are worth nothing and that everything depends on Timor so whatever the result of the election here it is not a real one. The real result will be known when the next mail arrives from Timor.

The dredging of the harbour was commenced on Saturday last. The contractor is using the dredger belonging to the Government and many boationds of mud have already been sent up the river. It is indeed a great pity to see the mid given away and sent out of the colony when i

could be used to so much advantage here, for there are many parts where ground could be reclaim ed and turned to good use, either for huilding or for ornamental gardens. As it is, the goes to benefit Sami, a village some eight or ten miles from here, and in a short time this village, without expending a single cent, will have received a great benefit from our Government by having the area of its land largely increas The dredging committee should benefit of the filling in material should be reserved for the colony, instead of going outside. Furthermore, in that case it would be known that the mud was deposited in the proper place, | with he is able to obtain information about

When he had the money to make a road joining taken according to Mr. Loureiro's plan. his successors would follow out the same idea and carry out the plan gradually as muney became available. The dredging committee may very well reconsider what is new going on, because in the first instance the matter had to be put through hurriedly in order to bring the rote into the accounts of the present financial year, but now that the money has notically been set aside and is safe the details of

CANTON NOTES.

the scheme may safely be reviewed.

FROM THE "CEUNG MGOI BAN PO." The pawn-shops which went on strike as slready reported, on account of the arrogan and extertionate behaviour of a Bannerman named Ku Tsun yang, resumed their business on the 28th ultimo, the Bannerman having been sentenced by the local Magistrate to six vears' imprisonment and the officers having promised to do their best to put a stop to the annovance caused by the Banner people. The

Viceroy has memorialised the Throne stating how unruly the Banner people have been lately Owing to the late heavy rame, the West triver in Namhoi, Suntak, Sameni, Sanoi, and Hokshan districts is ten feet higher than usual and the rice crops in these districts have been damaged. The streets near the river in Canton are flooded at high tide. A village in Si-oi district has suffered the most. A good many houses have been destroyed and rice crops and fruit trees have been badly damaged.

A long continued drought lies fears are entertained that the crops will fail if rain does not soon make its appearance there. The natives are beginning to pray for rain. As the number of destitutes in the Home for the Blind and the Poor House, which are sup-

ported by the Government has largely increas ed the sum allowed by the Government for the maintenance of the institutions is not sufficient to defray the expenses. His Excellency the Viceroy has therefore given ten thousand dollars out of his own pocket to aid the es-As the price of rice in Conton is exceedingly

tablishments. high, the Sin Han-kuk Charitable Institution has obtained permission from the Governmen to send two gunboats named the Fuk-Pou and Nam-mo to the provinces of Hu-Kwang to convey rice back to Canton for sale at low

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold overselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.] PEAK CHAIR COOLIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS." Siz.—On three successive evenings between and 8 p.m. there have been no chairs for hire at the Peak, presumably because the weather has been wet and windy and it doesn't suit the comfort of the modles to turn out under such conditions. This is the customary state of affairs with these men. Given fair weather they will deign to carry you, but the moment things become uncomfortable they retire to their quarters. In one sense one cannot blame them, but on the other hand they undertake a public service, they use the public roads as a means of livelihood, and should therefore accept, the had with the good. Any way, if they don't care to work in bad weather I would engrest to the Authorities interested that there are plenty of men -who given -the opportunity, would cheerfully do so. I imagine the Peak chair service is arranged through some contractor or "farmer" and that individual energy here, as elsowhere in the Colony in the matter of obairs and rickeles, is quashed by the middleman, who receives the licenses and lets those out at exorbitant rates to the poor wretches who do the work.

Possibly the Peak coolies, as in some other districts, above equally the miserable pittance allowed by the "farmer," and this may account for the indifference with which they regard a fare and their reluctance to carry any but those bound for the Mount Austin Holer and other short distances. There is something wrong somewhere?

fares are good and plentiful and yet the service is bad beyond description. The men are. continually changing; so much so that I believe a coolie rarely stays at his work more than a month. There ought to be a commodious and effective shelter to protect the men and chairs from the heavy rains of summer. and bitter winds of winter, and if, as I suspect the profits of this incretive business are time diminish his own share of it. lining the pockets of a middleman the scorer the Government take steps to encourage in dividual enterprise amongst the men of the chair and ricksha persuasion the better it will

PEAKITE. Hongkong, 2nd July, 1897. For the past quarter of a century there has been one continuous flow of letters bearing testimony at the truly wonderful sures effected by Clarke's world famed Blood Mixture, "the finest Blood Purifier that science and medical skill have brought to light. Sufferers from Scrotula Scurry, Ecrema, Bad Lega, Skingano Diord Dississes, Pimples and Sores of any kind, are sciented to give it a trial to test its value

be for all concerned -Yours truly.

Tacker . That suilors chorus was awf "The tare couldn't get the right pitch." He Tt must be dreadful when a pro- verations detention, and he would be keen to femional singer knows also has lost her voice.

CHANCES IN THE CHINA TRADE CHINESE MONOPOLISING THE IMPORT TRADE.

MERCHANT VERSUS COMMISSION AGENT

We take the following interesting review of the changes taking place in the Ghins tr. from Mr. Byron Brenan's recently published Although eighteen ports are open to the com-

merca of the world, the importation of goods

into China from Europe, the United States

and India, almost entirely takes place, through

the British colony of Hongkong in the sou and through the treaty port of Shanghai from these two great entrepots of the rade all the other ports are supplied. Hong kour supplies Foochow, Amoy, Swatow, Car ton. Heikow, and Pakhoi; while Shangha satisfies the wants of the six Yangtze and the three northern puris. It is at Hong song and Shanghai that are established British firms that supply the China market. At the other ports, or the "outports" as they are known in the China trade, the Hritish merthant, and the foreign merchant generally. ceasing to exist. At only twelve out of the courage foreign merchants to become disichteen porta are found British subjects en four are any British subjects interested in the lalso confer the same privileges on the Chinese as nese trader finds himself in the enjoyment of all the commercial privileges conferred on for- merchandise irrespective of awnership.

in the north or in the south he can proceed to Shangkai or Hengkong to lay in his supplies. He prefers the larger choice which he finds in than his foreign rival, and his establishment at the treaty port cost, him much less to keep The foreigner has no such fears; he

the native has still further advantages in dis posing of his goods at the treaty ports. is in touch with the up-country dealers, and knows the standing of the people he is dealing whereas now no certainty can be entertained on markets which the foreigner cannot; and the that point; it is merely a matter of trust and power of combination in matters of trade the material may be dumped where there is a which Chinese are so strong enable them danger of its being washed back into the har control the market and to render the business bour. There are many places in the colony of their foreign competitors unprofitable that require filling in according to Mr. It may therefore be stated that, with Loureiro s plan, and this plan should be few insignificant exceptions, the business followed out little by little as opportunity the British import merchant is confined offers. If the Committee wait for the time Hongkong and Shanghai, and that from when the plan can be undertaken all at once these entreputs the further distribution of

in its entirety, the time will never come. | merchandise throughout China is entirely When a little money is available, a little bit | the hands of Chinese. Once the goods have of the plan should be carried out. In this | left his warehouse in Hongkong or Shangha respect senhor Boria set a good example. the British importer has no longer a direct interest in their tate. He doubtless wishes then Green Island: to Macao he did not lose time. I wail, because the greater the consumption the but at once ordered the work to be under better for his business, but such remote interests do not incite him to spend much time or I am certain His Excellency hoped that money in clearing the way for British manufactures which have ceased to be his property And yet this is a service to our British indus tries which he alone can render. Chine traders are nowerless to remove obstructions which the rangely of their rulers may put in their way. To lodge a complaint against his own officials is fraught with so much danger that recourse to such a step is never attempted: to bring a case of extertion to the notice of a British official on the ground that the goods concerned are of British origin would mean the

rain of the ill-advised Chinaman

The import business at Shanghai is als undergoing a change, not exactly in the same direction as that which has taken place at all the other treaty ports. At these as already explained, the Chinese dealers have displaced the foreign merchapt; and dispensing with the services of any foreign go-between they obtain their stocks at Shanghai or Hongkong. Shanghai the tendency is also for Chinese inport on their own account, but the business still done through the avency of foreign morchants residing at the nort who in their Shanghai offices make contracts with Chinese for goods that are still lying in Manchester or other European centres of trade. The local foreign merchants are more and more ceasing to be merchants in the true sense of the word: and rather than take their chance of the market in China prefer to settle their terms before the merchandise leaves Europe. Of the textiles imported from England and America as much as one-half is apecially indented for under instructions from Chinase dealers and the foreign firm through whom the order has been sent abroad has no interest in them on arrival, except as security for the pay

ment by the Chinese principal. The Chinaman gives his order in Shanghai, takes his risk of the exchange and of the market, and awaits the arrival of his goods. It was customary, not long ago, to settle the exchange with the banks as soon as the order was booked, but of late, since the fluctuations in exchange have ceased to be so great. Chinese have shown a disposition to take their chance of the exchange as part of the risk which a merchant has to run. The gambling element in this has attraction for the Chinaman, but it has also been found that the silver price of the good follows any marked rise or fall in exchange, so

that the risk is more apparent than real. Of Laucashire goods imported into Shanghai one half arrive in this way already contracted for to the Chinese, and one-half are received by three or four large importing firms for their own risk; but in other goods the proportion coming entirely for the account of the Chinese is much larger. Cotton and woollen goods apart, about 75 per cent. of Changhal foreign imports arrive wholly on Chinese account.

It thus happens that the Chinese in a greater degree than the British merchant feels the im mediate effect of any infraction of the commoroial clauses of the British treaty; but the Uhinese merchant's voice cannot make itself heard to the same effect as that of the more independent foreigner, and treaty infractions are thus allowed to endure without attracting much attention, or at any rate without any serious effort being made to get matters right That a cortain amount of apathy follows, resulting in standation, is natural, for the desire to find new markets and to push sales which would animate the holders of large stock of unsold goods is not to be looked for in men who have dready secured a purchaser. The profitable disposal of his own merchandise is to any man more powerful incentive than the gamera norease of a trade in which he may not after ell become a participator; so the merchant with warehouse full of unsold goods is more likely bestir himself and find an outlet for vares, and to make himself heard if he meet with obstruction, than the man who is alread assured of his profit or his commission, and has no stake in the ultimate disposal of the merchandise that has been contracted

Trade, of course, must be conducted on the lines that best suit those engaged in it, but the change in the methods of business that is taking place dove not hode well for the expansion trade, which in China can only be looked for from the activity and energy of foreign merchants, supported and stimulated by their own Governments. From the agitation of Chinese dealer nothing is to be expected, for the simple reason that he dare not exitate. It is even a diffi ult matter to escertain from him the amount levied on goods between a port and an inland market; he fears, and with good reason. that his officials will vent their displeasure on him if he supplies information which may jeepardise their private gains; and he is also puwilling to take any step which, however sure to

through him.

at first sight seem immaterial whether the disnot found it profit ble to be themselves the the interior. The Chinese distributor has to

then the advantages to us would be fer reaching. | past quainted with the difficulties that beset our goods, he would resist illegal taration and discover new markets and to introduce new There are over three thousand operators one She . But it is still more dreadful when she poods. As things now are, this is all left to ! thousand of whom are worsen. The batteries: the anenterprising Chinaman, who, astute mer, are supplied by thirty thousand calls.

abant as he is in well-worn gracess, never thinks of striking out in a new direction At the treaty ports where the netive

and the foreigner are on the same footing ib can be understood that the native can more than hold his own, but when it comes to sending goods to inland markets it might be supposed that the question of ownership would tell in favour of the foreigner for beyond the treaty ports the functions of the honestly managed foreign customs coase, and trade finds itself at the mercy of the rapacious and corrupt native official. Undersour treaties a British merchant may hy down his merchandise at the door of

consumer in the Empire on payment of certain

dulies. The payment of an import duty of 5

per cent, and an inland duty of 24 per cent, or

t per cent, in all, should lay down our goods

anywhere. It is however, certain that, except in some favoured localities where the tax gatherer finds it unprofitable to establish himself. the law abiding Chinese trader never succeeds in putting his goods on the market on these favourable terms. The difference, then, between the amount of duties the Chinaman has actually to pay, and of the duties which the foreigner ought by treaty to pay should be the margin of profit in favour of the latter, and one sufficiently handsome to entributors. It is true that the treaty clauses raised in any sort of trade, and at only three or | bearing upon the inland trade in British goods import trade. As already explained, the Chi- on our countrymen and that the right of commutation of illand taxes appertains to the eigners by the treaties. According as be lives principle indeed the Chinese Government ha conceded this, but there is a vast difference in China between a right conceded to a Chinese and a right conceded to a foreigner. The native these places; he has all the finencial facilities is diffident about claiming rights conferred or which the well organised Chinese banking sys- him by foreign treaties when the exercise o tem affords him; he can travel more cheaply these rights is displeasing to the Chinese officials with whom he comes in contact

in. He can thus lay down his stocks at any at any rate feels secure in person of the outports on cheaper terms than the and property; and if his goods are illegally letained or surcharged his loss can be appraised in mohey, and the intervention of his Consul should lead to reparation. How then is it that the wants of the distant

Chinese consumers are not supplied by foreign merchanter. There are three reasons: One that the trade would combine against the foreigner, and that men of small capital could not carry on the fight; another, a lack of that feeling of enterprise which it is necessary nossess and exercise before the connections in the nterior can be formed; and still another, the misgivings which fill the minds of British merchants lest they should not receive adequate support and protection from their own authorities when they are in difficulties, an apprehension that hey will be left to shift for themselves, and that the British authorities will allow them to suffer unjust losses. It is this sense of inscourit that has discourded our pioneers at the treaty ports, and caused the British morchant to keep

tenr of any ventures except such as from his

own experience or that of others he knows to

oo not only legitimate, but also safe. A merchant is not a missionary: the latter persists in his efforts - spice of every chapture tion and disappointment. If in his quality of British subject he suffers wrong, he seeks re- onme on deck, and told the captain that the dress, but his failure to obtain it does not deter him from continuing in his self-imposed task. look to practical results. He derives little saved Cantain Rawlinson found himself in satisfaction from being assured that his com- the water he was on the bridge at the time of plaint is well founded, and that he is entitled the accident and he at once struck out from to reparation; he looks at his chances of obtain- the fast sinking ship in order to avoid the ing reparation, and if as frequently happens, suction. He secured a box and, with the second he sees that these are remote and that his engineer, hung on to it until the Reynet hove officials can do no more for him than, address in sight, and rescued them with the other futile remonstrances to the Chinese authorities. persons also supporting themselves in the he retires from the approfitable business and water. These were then conveyed to Dell, as instead of sponding his time and money in slready stated, and were treated with the

"It will probably cause surprise to learn how The scenes at the time of the foundaring are lew British merchants now exist in China. In I described as particularly harrowing: but so Shanghai there are 80 British firms, large and little time was given for those on board to realise small: at the outports the list is as follows:---

Number of Outports. Firms. Newelwang Tientsin Chungking Kirkiang Chinking Ningpo Foodbow. Amov ..

Swatow ...

Canton

Hoihow .

And of these not a few are merely commission agents. If the firms which are solely interested in ten are excluded, then the number is indeed insignificant and vet it is on these that we have mainly to rely for the extension of our trade. China as a customer of ours cannot buy unless she has something to pay with. It has often been pointed out by these who study trade statistics that China buys as much as she can afford. In the long run an increase of exports means an increase of imports but it has to be emembered that the Chinese producer does not seek a market for his goods in foreign countries, he stays at home till a purchaser comes to him, and it is doubtful whether a single article has ever found its way to a foreign market through the enterprise of the Chinese merchant. If the interchange of commodities between East and the West is to grow, it is the western merchant who must discover what more the Chinaman has to give us in exchange for our manufactures. The itiative must come from our side, and until we can take more from China she must not be ex-

pected to take more from us. The increased purchasing power of gold in: silver-using countries now makes profitable the exportation of many articles of Chinese produce which were neglected before. The customs returns for the vest 1990 --a list of 50 articles exported to foreign countries, of a value of 76,339,000 taels. and sum up the rest as sundries, valued at 1.544.000 taels. In 1895 these same 50 articles represented 129.355.000 tacle, and the sundries then had mounted up 13,938,000 tasts. While the principal staples had increased 70 per cent. the sundries had increased 800 per cent. Once an article becomes a constituent of the export trade, the Chinaman may be trusted to bring it to a market; but it is for the foreigner to is disolver what kind of produce is suitable, and

then introduce it into the trade. The export trade from China to Europe and America, unlike the import trade has shown no tendency to pass out of foreign hands. Occasionally, but so rarely as not to be of any importance, the Chinese dealer will be per suaded by the foreign merchant to retain an interest in produce consigned to a foreign market: but the results are usually discours. ing, and the Chinese are too distructful leave the sale of their merchandize in foreign markets to a foreigner, whose proceedings they bave no means of checking. But a though the xport trade romains in lorourn hadds: • Cushre of another kind is noticeable. Where years ago a few large firms with large capital bought China's products and sent them to Europe on their own account, there are now many small firms who receive orders from Europe by telegraph, and who fulfil these for a small commission at no risk to themselves. The talegraph and banking facilities have made it unpecessary to possess capital, and the business result in an extension of trade, may at the same of the export merchant in China has in 13.61 In taking a brond view of commerce it may a great measure changed into that of the commission agent. One of the consequences tribution of our manufectures throughout Chine of this is that the commission sgent who is in the hands of Chinese or of our own is buying on a limit, and who receives merchants; but under existing circumstances a commission on the amount of the invoice. it is to be regretted that our merchants have buys on the best terms he can at the treats. port but has no personal interest in the predistributors, and thus retain an interest in the | vious treatment which merchandise has exgoods until they have reached the consumer in perionced at the hands of the tax collector, and dees not feel disposed to engage in the intersubmit without hope of redress to the extertions minable disputes which an attempt to profit by of all the tax offices he may encounter on his the treaty etipulations affecting the inland journey, whereas the foreign distributor might | transit of merchandise would land him in. occasionally obtain redress, and our manu. Were he dealing with his own money, and was factures in his hands would be allowed to cir. | every dollar saved in taxes a dollar in his own culate more freely. But, as explained already. Locket, he probably would try to bring this the outport is no place for the foreign import taxation down to the legal minimum; but in merchant, and he cannot profitably take part in I filling un order he now takes what the local the work of distribution. Were it otherwise market offers, and makes no research into the

The General Post Office building London

is the largest telegraph office in the world

FIRE FOONBERING OF THE "BRI HOVE ANN!" ARRIVAL OF THE SURVIVORS AT

MINGAPORIL. There is no further telegraphic news from Malaoca regarding the terrible disaster to the steamer Sri Hong Ann, though a ramour is current that a steamer going north about the time of the disaster was able to nick up about twenty natives, either passengers or crew. Unfortunately, it is pretty certain that Mr. Allen, the phief engineer, has been drowned as one of the survivors says that he saw his dead body in the water after the vessel had sunk. At the time that the violent equal struck the steamer, the chief engineer was below. He immediately ranked on deck, but was not seen again alive. If it be true that another-vessel-has been able to pick-an-others of these who were thrown into the water, the total mortality may be considerably reduced. though, in any case, the loss of the Sri Hono Ann will rank as one of the most dreadful

nazitime calamities of recent years in these Captain Rawlinson and a number of the sarvivors arrived this morning, at daylight in the steamer Acts, which brought them from Doll, where they had been conveyed by the Dutch steamer Roynet, which was fortunately assing the scene of the foundaring not long fter the Sr. Hong Ann was struck by the souall. The number of saved, so far an is at present definitely is known, the Captain, the second engineer, sixteen of the crew, and, of the passenger's 28 Malays, 10 children. women 6 Chinese, I Japanese and Kling, making a total of 53, all told. It is to be hoped that this total will be materially neressed by some further report of others being picked up, which is not unlikely, as the sea was strewed with floating baggage and deck material. A representative of the Straits Times in-

which proved the salvation of many of those who have to day arrived. terviewed Captain Rawlinson, shortly ofter this morning -- Ine captain still suffering from an exposure of nearly two hours in the water and the anxiety and shook necessarily attending the disaster. In reply to enquiries, he said that the Sri Hong Ann left Singapore on Friday afternoon, about five o'cloux, and that all went welluntil half-past four on the morning of Saturday. An hour before that time, the sea was nerfeetly calm, and the moon was shining sevenely in a clear sky. Then, it become thick and threatening. Clouds came up from the North West and after woing for some time at baif speed, the order was given for dead slow. The vessels head was put to windward for a time, but as Maiscon was approached, the course was steered for shore. This was about ten minutes nest five. as the captain hoped to make Mulacca by daylight. Five minutes later. very heavy squall struck the steamer and. almost in the time that it takes to write it the vessel heeled to port and shipped a heavy sea. nstantly the passengers and their baggage followeded suit, and, with the whole weight on

the upper deck suddenly transferred to the windward side of the ship, and with a furious squall raging, the vessel was on her beam ends. and could not be righted. The chief engineer steamer was rapidly filling, and there was no hope for her. After that he was not seen alive, and merchant as a man of business has to it is difficult to believe that he could have been apholding treaty rights, he devotes these to greatest kindness, as they were also by the other purposes where the prospects are more Captain of the Hebe, which brought them to

the nature of the catastrophe that many must have perished almost unconscious of danger. The men in the engine room could have had little opportunity of effecting their escape, and were drowned like rats. In fact, few escaped who were not on the bridge or the upper deck; and they escaped by a fortunately ample supply of floating material. Of course nothing was

Captain Rawlinson had a very narraw escape At the time that he was precipitated into the water, he had on two coats and his Son Wester. and during the first quarter of an hour the weight of these sodden garments was almost too much for him. He was able, however, with the argistance of the second engineer. to divest himself of most of these garments. and he then felt much less exhausted, though the heavy seas put a severe strain on his arm while hanging on to a very small brass handle of the box. Happily no charle made their ppearance, though the waters of that part of he Straits have an unenvisible regulation.

A fortunate escape is reported from Singapore. A European employed in the Government service in Perak was to have returned by the Bri Hong Ann and went on board to secure his cabin He found, however, that he could not secure a berth on the bridge, and refused take a cabin on the main deck. He, thereore, remained behind.

for harbouring great numbers of those se

One of the Chinese saved made his escape rom the cabin window as, on being aroused, he ound that the door was jammed. There is unhappily little doubt that Mr. inderson and Mr. and Mrs. Percira, passengers. have been drowned. Mr. Anderson was sleeping in the bridge cabin, but the captain does not remember seeing him after the squall strock the steamer. Mr. and Mrs. Poreira were sleeping on the main deck in the cabin of the second An official enquiry will be held here .- Straits

EXPORT CARGO. Pet P. & O. steamer Resetts sailed on the lat oly .- For Loudon :- 1 cuso vigars from Manila, 50 rolls mats. 219 boxes ten, 5 boxes raw silk, 2 cases allk piece goods. 2 cases private effects. cases plants I ouse birds feathers and Losse Japanware. For Gibraltar -1 case silk piece goods. For France:—1,271 bales raw lik and b cases silk piece goods. For Milan —16 bales raw wilk. For Malta -- I case silk piece

FOR SALE CELEBRATED VIC-Y TORIAN BUTTER (" COW BRAND") in 1 lb., 2 lb., 5 lb., and 10 lb. Tinn. QUANTITIES OF NUT LESS THAN Emailer Quantities may be obtained at the TYSING KWANTAL NAMHINGLOONG and all the principal Ship's Compradores,

Market, and Provision shons. GEO. P. CAMMERT. the COAST of CHINA and the PHILIPPINES. Hongkong, 1st June, 1897.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH MEAP sets of TEETH from patients own war impressions. Instructions sent. T. H. STEPHENS, DENTIST SINGAPORE.

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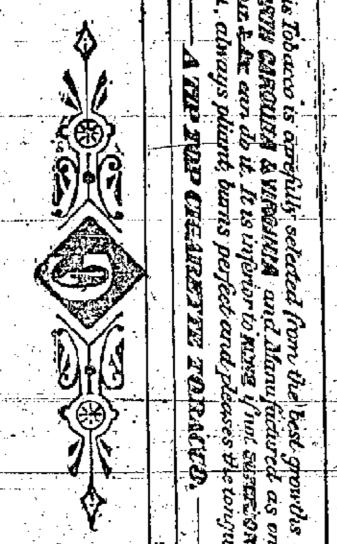
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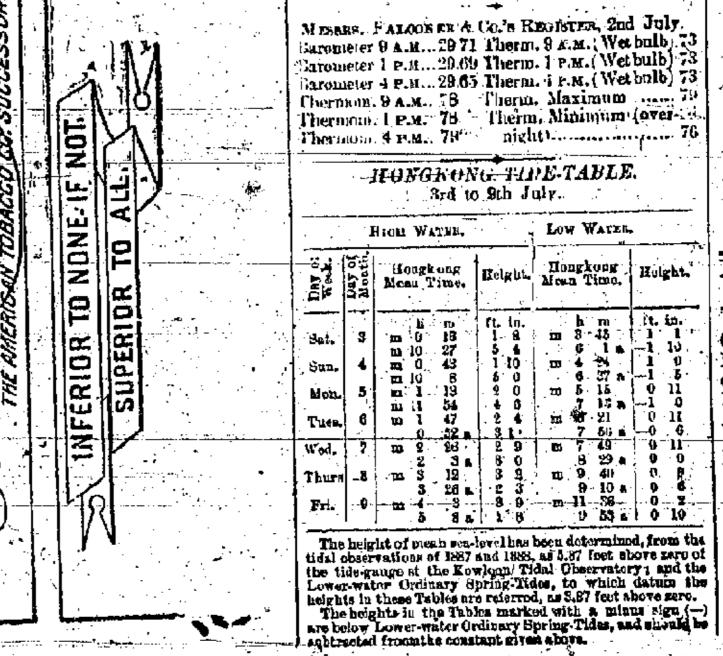
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Colony. Pressure is apparently abnormally high over Con-tral China and gradients are steep on the S. and S. E. exists.

Force ti-Strong NE, winds; threatening, squally with

HONGKONG REGISTER

day 1 p.m.

MESSES. FALCONER'A Co.'s REGISTER, 2nd July.

Sarometer 9 A.M. 2971 Therm, 9 K.M.; Wet bulb) 3

-HONGKONG. TIDE TABLE.

3rd to 9th July.

Hongkong Chestrators, 2nd July, 1897.

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nt 10 a.m.

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- F. G. FIGG, Acting Director.

LOW WATER

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Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight ... 1/1142

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Hangkong Hotel

Hongkong Rope......

il. & W. Dock

Canton.....

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Do Pref. Dong! is S. S. Co.

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OPTON. New Malwa (this year's) \$700 with all ance of 51 cit's

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Hougkong ice the & K. Whart & G ...

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ON SINGAPORE.-

ON MANILA .--

On New York.

FRIDAY, 2nd July.

THE PRENCK MAIL . The M. M. ateamer Ernest Simons, with the French mail of the 4th ultimo, loft Saigon. on Thursday, the 2nd instant, at 5 a.m. at d may be expected here on or about. Monday, the 5th instant. This Packet brings replies.

to letters despatched from Hongkong on the 28th April. THE AMERICAN MAIL. The P. M. steamer Peru, with the American mail of the 8th ultime, Ir . Yokohama on Wednesday, the 30th ultimo, at daylight and may be expected here on or about Thursday, the

The P. M. steamer City of Rin de Janeiro. with mails, &c., left San Francisco for this port. via Honolulu, Yokohama, Kobe, Inland Sea, Nagasaki, and Shanghai, on the 26th ultime.

THE CANADIAN MAIL The C. P. steamer Empress of Japan, saile'l from Vancouver, on Saturday, the 26th ultimo, for Yokohama. THE INDIAN MAIL The steamer Lightning, from Calcutta, left

Bingapore for this port on the 29th ultimo. MERCHANT STEAMERS. The "Ben" Line steamer Benalder, from Antworp and London, left Singapore on the 26th ultimo, for this port. The P. & O. steamer Managon left Bombay for this port on the 17th ultimo.

The N.P. steamer Pathan, sailed from Tacoma W., on the 20th ultime for this port via Japan The Austrian Lloyd's steamer Marquis Bacquehem left Kobe for this port on the 25th The "Rickmers" Line chartered steamer

Carsine, passed the Sucz Canal on the ist ilt., and is due at Singapore on or about the 2 st The C. M. steamer Moyune, from Glasgew and Liverpool, passed the Canal on 10th ult. and may be considered due at Singapore on or about 29th ultime.

The C. M. Chartered steamer Chingwo, from Swansen, Glasgow and Liverpool, left Singapore for this port on the 29th ultimo, and may be expected here on or about the 5th instant. The D. D. E. steamer Krienikild, from Ham-burg, left Singapore for this port on the Soth ultime, and may be expected here on or about the 5th instant.

The steamer Ningchow, from Swansea, Glos-gow, and Liverpool, passed the Canal on the 25th inst. and may be considered due at Singapere on or about the 12th instant.

PASSED THE CANAL OUTWARD - 1st June-Maria Valerie. 4'1 June-Annandale, Milne, Lennoz. Bih June-Niobe. 11th June-Java, Devo.sshire. 15th June-Diomed, Prometheus. 25th June-Benlemond, Ceylon, Salazie, Irene, Oldenburg, Innerdale, Det Joses (1) 29th June-Aglaja, Energia, Medinsa. Homeward-25th June-Glenoyle, Surpe lon, Vindobona, Yarra, Ceres, Helens Richmers, 29th June -- Gicela

POST-OFFICE NOTICES

The authorised List of Mails issued in connection with this paper is the one published twice each day in our Extra, which is corrected to a much later hour than that given below.

PEAR DELIVERY closes at Post Office at 11.30 8m. and 3 p.m. or in Letter Boxes in the Caraby 12 and 3.30 o clock Trams, Letter Boxes at Peak will be cleared at 12.50 and 4 p.m.

MAIL WILL CLOSE. For Manila. Per Pectan, to-day, the 3rd instant at 11.30 a.M. For Manila. - Per Yuensany, to day, the 3al instant, at 3.30 P.M. For Singapore, Penang and Bombay - Per Letimbro, to-day, the 3rd inst., at 5.30 P.M. For Shanghai. Newchwang and Will live-stock.—Per Glenturet, to-day, the 3rd inst.,

For Kobe and Yokohama.-Per Glenavon, to day, the 3rd instant, at 3.30 P.M. For Swatow, Amoy and Tamsni.—Per Haimun, to-day, the 3rd inst., at 5.00 P.M.
For Hollow and Pakhoi.—Per Triamph, today, the 3rd instant, at 5.00 P.M. For Bang kolt .- Per Tuichow, to-day, the 3rd at instant, at 5.00 P.M.

For Kobe .- Per Australian, to-day, the 3rd instant, at 5.00 P.M. For Swatow.-Per Shantang, to-cay, the 3rd inst., at 5.00 P.M. For Wuchow.-Per Wingtong, on Monday, the 5th instant, at 5.00 P.M. For Singapore, Colombo and Bombay. Per Idrumi Main, on Tuesday, the but in thirt, 11.30 A.M. For Shanghai, Moji, Kobe. Yokobama, Victoria, B.C. and, Tacoma, Wash,-Fer Olympia,

on Tuesday, the 6th instant, at 11.50 x.M. For Samarang and Soursbaya .- Per Shantung, on Thursday, the 8th just., at 11.50 A.M. For Sandakan and Kudat, -- Per Leucation, on Thursday, the 8th instant, at 230 P.M. MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES

PACKET: The United States Mail Packet, Belgic will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 6th instant. with mails for Amoy, Shanghai, Japan, San Francisco, the United States. Canada, Honolulu, Peru, &c., which will be closed as follows:-10 A.M. Registry ceases.
11 A.M. Post Office closes, but Correspondence may be posted on board the Packet with Lute

Fee of 10 cents extra Postage until the time of departure. MAILS BY THE FRENCH PACKET.

The French Contract Packet Caledon en will be despatched on WEDNESDAY, the 7th instinst, with Mails to the United Kingdom Europe, and places beyond, via Marseides. to Saigon, Straits Settlements. Batavia, Lurmah, Coylon, Madras, the Australasian Colonies, Aden, Natal and the Cape, Egypt, Malta, und Gibraltar. 8.00 A.M. Posting of Prices Current and Cir-

culars chases.

10.30 A.M. - Posting of newspapers, books, and patterns ceuses.

11.00 A.M. - Mail closes. MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES

PACKET The United States Mail Packet Feru will be despatched on THURSDAY, the 15th instant, with Mails for Shanghai. Japan and San Francisco, the United States, Carada. Honolniu, Pera, &c., which will be closed us moved Westward to the S, of Halphong, where the barometer has since risen very quickly. In Hongkong the barometer again inclined to fall, and enotice depression is probably forming in the N. part of the China Sea to the Southward of the 10.00 A.M. Registry ceases."

11.00 A.M. Post Office closes, but Correspondence, may be posted on board the Packet with Late Fee of 10 cents extra Postage until the time of departure.

TITSOI BISSAN KAISHA No. 8, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL

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Shanghai. Onoda Cement Company, Japan. Kanogafuchi Cotton Spinning Mill Tokyo Cotton Spinning Mill, Japan.

Hayashi Clock Factory. Hongkong 12th December, 1896.

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The height of presh wes-level has been determined, from the tidal observations of 1887 and 1883, as 5.87 feet above zaro of the tide-gauge at the Kowloon/Tidal Observatory; and the Lower-water Ordinary Spring-Tides, to which datum the heights in these Tables are referred, as 3.87 feet above zero.

HIGH WATER,

The heights in the Tables marked with a minus sign (-) are below Lower-water Ordinary Spring Tides, and should be aghtracted from the constant given above.